THE BLACK PANTHER

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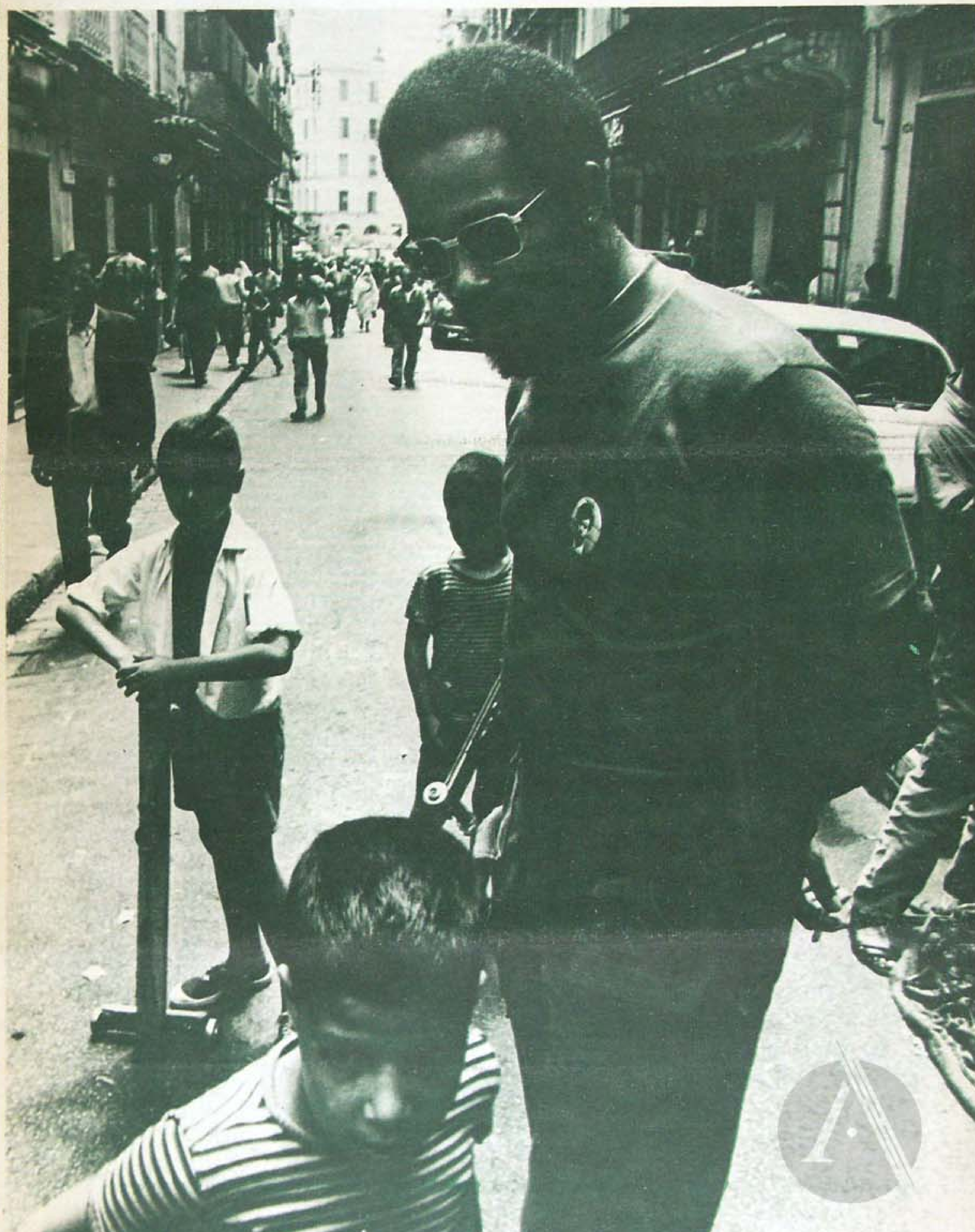
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THE TEN POINT PLATFORM AND PROGRAM OF THE BLACK PANTHER PARTY

By Chairman Bobby Seale

"WE WANT LAND, BREAD, HOUSING, EDUCATION, CLOTHING, JUSTICE, AND PEACE...."

Today, that's only part of number 10 of the Black Panther Party's Ten Point Platform and Program of "What We Want." The exploited, laboring masses and poor, oppressed peoples throughout the world want and need these demands for basic human survival. The Black Panther Party began when Huey and I outlined the basic political desires and needs and put them into the form of a platform and program with ten points of "What We Want" and ten of "What We Believe." Huey and I sat there in the Poverty Office where we worked, one night in October 1966, and began a revolutionary political party, knowing that the program was not just something we had thought up. The program was an outline of the basic political desires and needs that went back into the history of Black people, suffering under the exploitative oppression by the greedy, vicious, capitalistic ruling class of America. The Platform and Program is nothing more than the 400-year old crying demands of us Black Americans. They are basic demands of 'What We Want' and 'What We Believe'.


BOBBY SEALE AND LI'L BOBBY HUTTON

Naturally these demands have a very international proletarian likeness to those of any people who are struggling against the three levels of oppression: the greedy, exploitating, rich, avaricious businessmen; the misleading, lying, tricky, demagogic politician, and the atrocious, murdering, brutalizing, intimidating, fascist, pig cops. These three levels of oppression exist in virtually every country where there is overt capitalistic exploitation and the minority, but oppressive ruling class circles of America are in the head of it all. They lead it with their imperialistic, fascist, aggressive, colonialistic war mongering, not only abroad, but right here at home in America (Babylon), where hundreds of years of subtle and maniacal racism has been organized and developed by the greedy rich, organized and developed into domestic imperialism - fascism.

Community imperialism is manifested or is readily seen with respect to the domestic colonialization of Black, Chicano, Indian, and other non-White peoples being cooped up in wretched ghettos and/or on Southern plantations and reservations with the murdering, fascist, brutalizing pig, occupying the communities and areas just like a foreign troop occupies territory. Domestic imperialism of this sort is not limited to Black, Brown, and Red peoples, especially nowadays when the masses of Americans take time to remember fascist suppression by thousands of cops and National Guardsmen at the Democratic Convention last November. Also, in the last few years, on every major college campus, murderous, brutal fascism in America made its appearance against White, Black, and Brown students and other students who attempted to use their basic "democratic rights" to change racist administrations and protest the war in Vietnam and brutality and poverty in the ghettos in America.

Fascism in America has existed for so many more years before the recent forms of repression came about. And every American (and Black people in particular) CAN identify it for exactly what it is. Racism plus capitalism breeds fascism when the avaricious businessmen refuse to give control to the unemployed workers and their unions. And history has testified to this from the years of repression and unemployment in the thirties to the present day, when the union people will work and strike and peoples will demand right before our eyes that they be allowed to work too. And brutal cops will come about and tricky politicians will come about to trick and mislead the people, to oppress the people and repress their actions, to take over the very factories where they have to produce goods and wealth that they never receive back.

Fascism breeds when the lazy, tricking, demagogic politicians lie and mislead people about the suffering that Black people are subjected to, that Brown peoples are subjected to, that any color peoples or minority group peoples, or any poor White peoples are subjected to. When the people move to demonstrate or protest and these human rights workers and civil rights workers are murdered and killed; when babies are bombed in the church as back in 1963 in Burmingham, thousands of demonstrators are clubbed and brutalized such as in Burmingham, Alabama back in 1963. This in itself begins to prove the demagogic politicians for what they are--with promises of ending poverty, with promises of a "Great Society", the promises of "looking into the matter," etc., etc., etc.,

Because of the basic Ten Point Platform and Program that was put together that deals with the need for full employment for our people, that spells it out; that deals with a need for decent housing, fit for shelter of human beings; that deals with a decent education that teaches us our history and our place in the world and in society; that deals with the need to have fair trials by our peer groups or people from our Black communities or the districts where we live--because of a program that talks about land, bread, housing, education, clothing, justice, and peace; because of a program that talked about a United Nations supervised plebiscite to be held throughout the Black colony where the colonial subjects would participate and determine our will and our destiny; because of a program that stated in it that we wanted Black men to be exempt from military services because of all the injustices we have suffered after fighting in wars in the past for the fascist ruling class (and we refuse to continue dying for them); because our Ten Point Platform and Program had in it point number seven that says, "We want an immediate end to police brutality and murder of Black people"; because Huey P. Newton put this program together and founded this organization with this Ten Point Platform and Program that outlined the basic political desires and needs of the people; because of that; because we began to implement it; because we went to the streets to begin to teach the people and educate the people to the strategic methods to have these political desires and needs answered; because of that, Bobby Hutton wa murdered by fascist Oakland pigs. Because of that, we had Alprentice "Bunchy" Carter and brother John Huggins also murdered at UCLA by jealous, egotistical, piggish dogs who worked for the pigs of the ruling class. Because of that and because of this Ten Point Platform and Program that's there for the basic political desires and needs of Black people here in America and any other people and any other proletarian struggles going on throughout the world--because of that we've had two more brothers murdered by these Black nationalist, cultural nationalist pigs.


CHARLES BURSEY AND BOBBY SEALE

Because of this program, we have political prisoners. We have dead members. We have a war going on. The war started 400 years ago, and the war must be ended. And only by us continually going forth to implement the Ten Point Platform and Program; by us hanging to the fact that we will receive, through all the struggle, some kind of freedom and dignity and justice, will point number ten be realized. We say in number ten, we want some land, some bread, some housing, some education, some clothing, some justice, and some peace. Because of that, it seems that we'll die; it seems that we'll be in exile, and it seems we'll have political prisoners.

So let's free all the political prisoners, because of the Ten Point Platform and Program. Because that's the idea; that's the idea that can never be stopped. And as our Minister of Defense so eloquently explained to us in "Prison--Where Is Thy Victory?" an idea belongs to the people.

POWER TO THE PEOPLE
Chairman, Bobby Seale
Black Panther Party

PANTHERS PIGS AND FOOLS

Last Saturday afternoon a fool, who is either on the pig payroll or just gifted with a pig's mentality, had occasion to pose as a member of the Black Panther Party.

This is not a rare thing. As a matter of fact, all kinds of pigs, fools, and eunuchs find it increasingly desirable to pass themselves off as member of the Black Panther Party. Although "Paper Panthers" seem to be springing up everywhere and all the time, there are some points that make this particular "Paper Panther" an outstanding example of what happens when you mix pigs and fools.

Robert (fool) Williams had been having transmission problems and knew Pete to be a good mechanic, with fair prices, and a friendly outgoing personality. This is common knowledge throughout the community. Robert had asked Pete to do a job on his transmission and Pete had done the job at a fair price.

Saturday, Robert Williams of 958 43rd Street, Oakland, and a henchman/lackey went to pick up his 1959 MGA from Pete's gas station on Fairview and Shattuck. They took a rifle with them.

When they arrived at the station, they inquired about the car and it was ready. Robert Williams then asked about his "tune-up". When Pete reminded this pig/fool that a tune-up had not been part of the deal the fool began to rant and rave about how he had to have a tune-up. After much cursing and threatening he went to his friend's vehicle and came back brandishing a magazine fed rifle.

After putting Pete and all of his employees up against the wall, pig/fool began to lobby for his free tune-up. Under these circumstances, Pete did what anyone would have done and readily agreed. When Pete's employee tried to ease into the office to reach the phone pig/fool threatened to blow him away.

Pig's fool's ego got the best of him after awhile and Pete managed to escape and call the pigs. When the Oakland and Berkeley pigs arrived pig/fool had unloaded the gun and began lecturing the fascist pigs on his "constitutional rights". The fascist naturally ignored the "constitutional rights", snatched the gun from his hands and almost poked-out one of his eyes sticking some ".357 constitution" in his face.


PANTHER INTERVIEWS PETE

In the investigation that followed it came out that pig/fool's henchman (who's name is unknown) had warned Pete "You'd better do what he tells you to do, he's a Black Panther."

This didn't fool Pete for a number of reasons.

1. Some of Pete's best customers are Panthers and Pete knows Panthers don't act like pigs and fools.
2. Pete's gas station is only one block from National Headquarters and Pete recognized "Henchman" as being one of the hang-arounds from the early days of the Party that had been kicked out long ago.

This didn't deter the Oakland/Berkeley Pig Departments from holding what appeared to be pig conventions in front of Party Headquarters for the last four days. After the local pigs could find no justification for their long awaited, pre-planned raid on our National Office, they seemed up-tight.

To people not in the know, this may seem to have been true because when he was arrested his friend made a telephone call and reported his arrest and within ten minutes there were 8-10 carloads of militant looking young Black people staked-out and patrolling the area of the station. Williams is rumored to be a process-wearing student of Cal Berkeley and maybe it was some of his student henchmen from Cal or Merrit. Maybe he belongs to a GORILLA BAND (GORILLA not Guerilla). At any rate none of these fools were members of the Black Panther Party.

Pig/fool Robert Williams made a second trip by the office to assure us that he had not been impersonating a Party member. This was just minutes after pig/fool stopped in at Pete's station and told Pete that he was a "Black Panther" and that it would be healthier for Pete not to press charges. Pete had told him that "if you are a Panther you'd better go by the office and get it straight, because they are about to put an aritcle about you in their newspaper."

Without disclosing the visit to Pete's, pig/fool Williams came in and denied everything and revealed that since he had been out on bail the FBI had been harassing him and trying to make him say he was a Party member so that they could work on some charges to justify a raid, and some trumped-up charges.

That's the way things stand now. The Oakland and Berkeley pigs are still frustrated freaks (with a plan). The repression, frame-ups, and murders are still coming down on the Black Panther Party; the FBI is still plotting; and pig/fool Robert Williams of 958 43rd Street, Oakland, is in a jam between the pigs and the people.

P.S. We still say Pete's a good mechanic.

BLOOD TO THE HORSE'S BROW, AND WOE TO THOSE WHO CANNOT SWIM.



JOHN SOTO : ANOTHER VICTIM OF PIG GUNS

CHICAGO PIGS KILL PEOPLE

John Soto, 16, a Crane High School student of 2111 W. Lake St., was murdered at 10 p.m. Sunday night, October 5. Anna Singleton, 21, of 3220 W. Lexington was murdered while shopping in a racist Chicago suburb, Cicero, on Monday morning, October 6. Rosina Marbley, a 2 year-old, was wounded as she attempted to re-enter an apartment with her grandmother, on Sunday night, October 5.

What connects these three incidents? Firstly, the nature of what they are (crimes) and secondly, the similarity of the criminals (pigs).

On Sunday night, John Soto and two friends were walking and had reached the corner of Western and Maypole when they noticed a car with two pigs from the Task Force following them. Harassing them from the car and finally halting it, these fascists, without any provocation, shot and killed John Soto. There was no questioning, no yell to "halt", no warning shot fired into the air, just open, brutal, and unprovoked murder. Pig John Nolan who murdered this brother is now saying that the gun went off accidentally and that he did not kill him. But John Soto's friends and people on the street at that time, and people, such as the Black Panther Party, who know about the gestapo tactics of the pigs, know that this pig lies. We know that for the fascist "protectors", the word "accident" and the word, "murder", have become synonymous.

In Cicero, a Chicago suburban seat of White racism, a sister, Anna Singleton, was shopping in Community Store with four friends. Black people in Cicero are regarded as sub-human rarities and are often told to never return to that area. It somehow became suspected by store clerks that one of Anna's friends had a gun. If so, the Black Panther Party says, "Right On", because this sister must have realized that an "unarmed people are subject to slavery at any given moment.'; The FFC (Fascist Forces of Cicero) were summoned to the store. Arriving on the scene with visions of viciousness, the pigs accosted the sisters and were about to search them. Yes, these two White male pigs were about to pat down these sisters! This once again proves that the oppressor respects none of the rights of the oppressed.

While rightfully protesting, Anna was snatched by the collar and told that she had better submit. Pointing out that this was a violation of her rights, the fascists became insanely angered, went mad, and shot and killed her in the store. No warrants of any kind were ever produced. Later, her friends were hauled to jail and charged with possession of a concealed weapon.

On Sunday night, a 2 year-old child, Rosina Marbley was entering the Cabrini-Green homes area with her grandmother, when she was shot in the leg by pigs who were supposedly "shooting at snipers in that area." Yes, a 2 year-old child mistaken for a sniper. She is now in the hospital receiving treatment for the wound.

The degrees registering on the thermometer of fascism are at an all time high. Each wanton act committed by these sadists is an indication of the oppressive atmosphere in which we live. The poor and oppressed people are victims of this terror that knows no time, no age, and no limit. It is evident that these insane terrorists have vowed to outdo the fascism of the Nazi era.

Those of us who now live and see this ever mounting fascism must act and act now. We must put an end to it, because those deaths and that injury were controllable because public servants are supposed to be responsible to us. And if we don't see that they are, then, the same fate that befell them might befall us.

Point No. 7 of the Black Panther Party's Ten Point Program says: "We want an immediate end to police brutality and murder of Black people." And this can be implemented through our program for Community Decentralization of Police. A program that, if effected, would enable the people to decide who "protects" them.

All working together, we must stop this rising tide of fascism. It is no longer a question of nonviolence or violence; it is a question of resistance or nonexistence.

ALL POWER TO THE PEOPLE
OPPOSE THE FASCIST PIGS WITH A UNITED FRONT NOW!

BLACK PANTHER PARTY
Illinois Chapter

SDS: A NEED FOR REVOLUTIONARY LINE

The past four days (Oct. 8-11) in Chicago illustrates the non-revolutionary, sectarian tendencies of petty-bourgeois students. SDS sponsored four days of spontaneous actions in the heart of the New Reichstag, Chicago.

Before the start of the disruptive activities, Mark Rudd, National Secretary for the Weatherman faction of SDS, had a talk with the Deputy Chairman of the Illinois Chapter, BPP. Deputy Chairman Fred told him that the type of activity planned was bordering the lines of anarchy and would hurt the progress of the revolution. He was then told by Mark Rudd that he(SDS) was the vanguard of the White community. That is a racist (White-skin chauvinism) statement. There is only one vanguard for all communities, The Black Panther Party. The one ruling class oppresses both communities, as a result, there can only be one vanguard to lead the assault on that ruling class.

When Deputy Chairman, Fred Hampton, told him that the pigs would attack them, Mark Rudd exclaimed that the "pigs aren't at the stage of attacking White people".

That 'narodnik' left and went to lead those demonstrations... The demonstrations, turned into riots between the 'Weathermen' and the pigs. As a result, two weathermen were seriously wounded and dozens were injured. The Deputy Chairman had analyzed the plan before it was put into practice and had predicted correctly what happened.

If the 'Weathermen' had any revolutionary theory, they wouldn't have embarked on that bloody voyage.
However , the 'Weathermen' did fight back when they were attacked and wounded a few pigs.

The 'Weathermen' should have spent their time organizing the White working and lumpen class instead of 'prematurely' engaging in combat with the trigger-happy pigs whom were armed with overkill weapons. The 'Weathermen' had no political objective, they were only seeking 'revenge' for what happened last year at the Democratic National Convention. The move against the pigs was a result of their sectarian policy that they (SDS)' can carry the socialist revolution through alone without the support of the White working class. This quest for individual freedom is one of the corner stones of anarchism.

The fact that they don't believe the pigs will attack them shows they don't understand or use the dialectical method to analyze this fascist society. Not to believe that the pigs will move on them illustrates their disbelief that America is moving into a fascist police state.

The Black Panther Party will not endorse or tolerate spontaneity or the retarding effects of anarchism. We understand that we will have to move on the pigs. But now is not the time. We will move on them when the balance between the reactionary and revolutionary forces have been dipped by our efforts in our behalf. To spontaneously go up against thousands of armed pigs shows not only a lack of revolutionary theory, but it shows a lack of common sense. Anarchism and spontaneity can tip that delicate balance in favor of the fascist reactionary forces of this decaying capitalist state.

SEIZE THE TIME

BLACK PANTHER PARTY
Illinois Chapter
Lt. Eugene Charles

ILLINOIS CHAPTER FREE MEDICAL CLINIC

The Black Panther Party understanding the needs of Black people and other oppressed people is opening a People's Medical Center.

We are opening this center; to answer the basic needs of Black people, to educate the people to the fundamentals of socialism, and to heighten contradictions within this racist, facist, capitalistic society. This program like our breakfast for children program was formulated by our Minister of Defense Huey P. Newton.

When we say answer the basic needs and desires that's what we mean. This is done by giving people food and medical care which are essentials for survival.

Understanding that injustice and oppression does exist in America and a revolution or change in this society must occur, we must educate the people to the reasons for such a change. Therefore these programs are geared toward being educational. They are educational in that they show people by example the way socialism works.

These programs heighten the contradiction by showing the people that the Black Panther Party, an organization that has only been in existence since 1966; the Black Panther Party, an organization that has been labelled a gang, the Black Panther Party, a so called subversive group, is in fact making an attempt to meet the needs of the people. The federal government however, with all of its wealth and resources are not doing anything to meet the needs of the people. The people will then say any form of government which is not meeting their needs should be altered or changed and a different form of government should be instituted - based on the principle of serving the people. Anyone here in America can take an objective look at the medical profession and will come up with a conclusion that will say: The medical profession is not responsive to the medical needs of the people and the medical profession within this capitalistic society is composed generally of people working for their own benefit and advancement rather than the humane aspects of medical care. We say this because there is no reason, no excuse, no justified cause that the medical profession with its present level of technology and advancement is not responsive to all of the needs of the people.

To remedy the problem of people suffering from malnutrition, infant mortality, sickle cell anemia, and other health problems found in most oppressed communities, we must socialize the medical profession. We must socialize it because then, it will be in the hands of the people.

In opening the people's medical care center, we will be setting an example by instituting a program which will be serving the people but at the same time will be controlled by the people. It will eliminate the age long problem of medical personnel alienating themselves from the people they are in fact suppose to be serving.

The center will open within the next two weeks at 3850 W. 16th st, Chicago.

Ronald Satchel
Dep. Min. of Health
Ill. Chapter B.P.P.



BOB RUSH, BLACK PANTHER PARTY AND CHA CHA JIMINEZ, YOUNG LORDS

Young Lords Organization

Pigs Block Cha Cha Jiminez

Chicago (LNS) -- Cha Cha Jiminez is the driving force behind the Young Lords Organization. As Chairman, he led its conversion from a street gang to a political organization and spearheaded the Free Breakfast and Free Clothing Program. Now, with Chicago becoming a major center of confrontation, Daley's pigs are moving to keep Cha Cha off the streets and away from the people.

On Thursday, Sept. 25, Cha Cha was thrown in jail for $10,000 ransom on charges of mob action in demonstrations at the Conspiracy 8 trial. The Negro judge at his bail hearing already knew Cha Cha from a prior encounter where Cha Cha had told him he was both a pig and a running dog.

At the beginning of the hearing, the judge had set bail at only $1,000, but after Cha Cha told him again that he was a pig, he raised it to $10,000.

NEW HAVEN DEFENSE PACT ESTABLISHED

Fourteen New Haven community and student groups, including the New Haven Black Coalition, announced today the formation of the Coalition for Defense of the Black Panthers.

The Coalition's first public statement was released this morning at a press conference at the Dixwell Community House. The group also announced that it will hold its first public meeting next Wednesday, October 8, at 8 p.m. at the Frist Methodist Church College & Elm Sts. New Haven.

Besides the Black Coalition, groups forming the coalition for Defense of the Panthers include the American Independent Movement (AIM), Black Law Students Association at Yale, Freedom Now, Architect's Resistance, Coalition of Concerned Citizens (CCC), Dixwell Legal Rights Association (DLRA), Hill Parents Association (HPA), Citizens for Justice, Order and Equality (JOE), New Haven Students for a Democratic Society (SDS—separate from Yale SDS), Organization of Afro-American Students at Southern Connecticut State College, Science Action Group, Yale Divinity School Association, and the Yale Student Health Organization. Statements by some of these groups outlining their reasons for joining the Coalition are attached.

Today's Statement said in full:

"The Coalition for Defense of the Panthers calls for support based on the following statement:

"The Coalition for Defense of the Panthers comprises organizations and individuals who are working for a fair trial of the Black Panthers. Fourteen Panthers are now in jail awaiting trial on conspiracy to murder and other capital charges. Conspiracy is the hardest charge to defend and the easiest to prosecute: it is the most unfair to any defendant. All are being held without bail. They have been denied a preliminary hearing, and many other basic constitutional rights.

"The Coalition fears that a fair trial of the Panthers is virtually impossible unless concerned citizens try to counteract the campaign of public hysteria against the Panthers that was launched only a few hours after their arrest. The May 22 New Haven Register, for example, carried mug shots of arrested Panthers all across the front page, as accompaniment to a highly inflammatory article, in which several "leaks" from police sources were cited to describe alleged evidence against the Panthers.

"The tone of this article and others, coupled with the disclosure of evidence, which, if it exists at all, should only be introduced at the trial, is an attempt to violate the Panthers' constitutionally-guaranteed presumption of innocence and ensure conviction of the Panthers before the trial even begins.

"The Black Panther Party takes radical political positions, and members of the Party, in violation of their constitutional rights, are on trial for these positions.

"The arrest of Bobby Seale, national Chairman of the Party, raises the possibility that this trial will become the Sacco and Vanzetti trial of the 1970's. It is this that the Coalition seeks to avoid.

"The Coalition has two major goals: (1) to counteract the prejudicial publicity against the Panthers by educating New Haven citizens about the Panthers' positive community programs and about the legal rights which they must receive to have a fair trial, and (2) to raise money for the legal defense for the Panthers and to carry on the work of the Coalition in the Panthers' behalf.

"The trial and other steps in the defense of the Panthers will be very expensive, particularly since such a large number of people have been arrested. The Coalition calls upon all citizens who are concerned to see justice done to contribute to the Panther defense."

STATEMENTS TO THE PRESS

Science Action Group of New Haven

The Science Action Group of New Haven is an organization of young scientists trying to relate their knowledge to New Haven community problems, not as a group of experts, but as co-workers in that community.

The arrest and "pretrial" of the New Haven Black Panthers by the local press has created fear and mistrust in the minds of the people of New Haven. We have joined the Coalition to Defend the Panthers to help counteract the biased news accounts both of the Panther's activities and of the alleged crime. Also we must not permit our courts to treat people or groups unfairly on the basis of political beliefs unpopular in those courts.

THE AMERICAN INDEPENDENT MOVEMENT

The American Independent Movement supports the Coalition to Defend the Panthers. We join, first of all, because we believe the current persecution has violated every principle of justice. The Panthers were arrested illegally, denied the right to counsel, and the right to bail. They were indicted in secret by an illegally selected grand jury of courthouse cronies. We believe the police and prosecution officials are making a deliberate and unconstitutional attempt to violate the principle of "innocent until proven guilty" by planting prejudicial newspaper stories in the press.

On a broader level, we join this Coalition to Free the Panthers because we believe the efforts and goals of the Black Panther Party are important and positive steps toward securing economic and racial justice in America. The Panthers believe, as does AIM, that America must be controlled by the working people, both black and white, and not by the corporations and their big shot politicians. For these reasons we will fight this attempt to discredit and destroy the Black Panther Party.

DIXWELL LEGAL RIGHTS ASSOCIATION INC.

As a community legal rights education program, we at Dixwell Legal Rights Assoc. believe it is essential to demand and work constructively for a legal system which protects the constitutional right of all defendants, regardless of their political or social beliefs. Furthermore, every citizen and all community groups must bear this responsibility by actively seeking a fair trial for the arrested members of the Black Panther Party.

THE YALE DIVINITY SCHOOL ASSOCIATION

In recognition of the crucial and symbolic importance of the case of the New Haven Panthers, the Executive Council of the Yale Divinity School Assoc. voted by a heavy majority on Thursday, September 25, to join the Coalition to Defend the Black Panther Party. Many of us are sympathetic with much of the work of the Panthers, and are willing to work to see that justice for them is brought about rapidly.

We want to make clear our deep concern that the Panthers not be denied equal process under law because they are both radical and Black. We therefore pledge our full support to all efforts to insure that they go into the court room without the verdict and sentencing



NEW HAVEN PANTHER RALLY, MAY 1, 1969

having been already rendered, and we deplore the prejudicial coverage of their case by the news media which has assumed that their guilt is obvious.

THE ARCHITECTS RESISTANCE

The Architects' Resistance finds it intolerable that the Police and the press have the right to wage a campaign of hate against any group they wish to see destroyed. The Panthers have been the object of just such a campaign and have been denied the right to a fair trial. Therefore The Architects' Resistance joins with the other members of the Coalition in demanding that the Panthers not be denied a fair trial because of the radical nature of their politics.

Futhermore we fully support the Panther principle, that all people should have the right and power to control their own lives, and believe they should be allowed to continue their work free of harassment.

NEW HAVEN STUDENTS FOR A DEMOCRATIC SOCIETY (SDS)

New Haven SDS is a group of young people working to return the power of America to its people. We join the Coalition to Defend the Panthers.

The arrest of the Conn. Panthers is part of a nation wide attempt to destroy the Panthers, because the Panthers' fight against the oppression of all people in America. Panthers serve the people: They must be set free! All Power to the People!

THE STUDENT HEALTH ORGANIZATION (OF YALE MEDICAL CENTER)

The Student Health Organization a group of health science students and working professionals in medicine, nursing, public health and related fields, joins in the Coalition to Defend the Black Panthers. Our work and training in health has brought home the desperate need for fundamental changes in our country's system of programs and priorities. We believe that the Black Panther Party is working wholeheartedly for such changes, by demanding that all the institutions of society serve its people, and by working to achieve the real power of the people.

We believe it is a clear sign of the strength of the ideas of the Black Panthers that, here in Connecticut and elsewhere, the political power structure is making such a blatant attempt to destroy the Panthers. We intend to work with the Coalition to Defend the Panthers, to undo the trial by newspaper, the obvious, brutal persecution, and the public fear and hatred created against them.

We must tell the community what the Panthers are really doing, of their efforts to bring health to the people through such programs as the Free Breakfasts for Children, and Free Community Clinics.

And we must make clear our anger, as future nurses, physicians, and health scientists,



ERICKA HUGGINS

about the conditions in which the Panthers are being incarcerated. In particular, we cannot abide the lack of decent prenatal care for three of the Panther women prisoners who are now pregnant, and the inhumane way in which the State will take these women's babies from them. The real story of the Black Panthers has yet to be told.

ORGANIZATION OF AFRO-AMERICAN STUDENTS (SOUTHERN CONN STATE COLLEGE)

The history of the black man in America has been one of intense oppression, exploitation, and terror. For 400 years we have been bred and slaughtered like cattle at the slave masters' discretion. For 400 years we have been forced to endure any and every kind of injustice. For 400 years we have been victims of the most insidious system that has ever been recorded in the annals of history. We Black people will not let another year, not another second pass without trying to rectify the situation. Indeed we Black people do see the light at the end of the tunnel. We support the Black Panther Party in its fight to erase expolitation. We support and actively engage in ensuring a fair trial for these courageous warriors of justice.

We the students of Southern Connecticut pledge our full support both moral and physical energies to the Black Panther Party to do all within our power to safeguard the right to a fair and speedy trial. We at Southern admire and respect the unquenchable desire for total liberation of all oppressed people exemplified by the Black Panther Party. Lastly, the student at Southern as well as Black people generally will not tolerate random intimidation nor arbitrary terrorism from anybody but will unite under the banner of righteousness and deal with it.

COALITION OF CONCERNED CITIZENS

The Coalition of Concerned Citizens is alarmed that a fair trial for the Black Panthers who have been arrested no longer appears possible. The case for the police and the prosecution has been put before the public repeatedly by the news media. Because of this trial by publicity, a large part of the community feels the case is as good as closed. For all practical purposes, this makes the selection of an impartial jury virtually impossible. We feel the news media have the obligation to rectify the situation by reporting the case for the defense as well. This is essential if we are to preserve a fundamental ideal in our legal tradition: that is, any person charged with a crime is "innocent until proven guilty in a court of law."

MOTHER - COUNTRY RISING UP ANGRY

In the most recent attack on young people in this dying society, members of the White Panther Tribes of the Detroit/Ann Arbor area have been indicted by a Federal Grand Jury for conspiring to bomb the CIA office in Ann Arbor on September 29, 1968. Brother John Sinclair (political/ cultural prisoner and Minister of Information now serving a 10-year sentence in Marquette Prison for possession of two joints of marijuana without appeal bond), brother Pun Plamondon (Minister of Defense), and Jack Forrest (cadre) were named as defendants in the conspiracy charge with Pun also being charged with the actual bombing. Also named in the indictment, but only as a co-conspirator and not as a defendant, was David Valler. President Dave, as he was known in the Detroit hip community last year, is now serving a 7-10 year sentence for a dope bust in Ionia Prison for the "criminally insane". He, along with 12 other young people (including Jack Forrest) was arrested last year for conspiracy to place explosives at a number of police stations, draft boards, and police cars. It was common knowledge on the streets that he had been involved. The conspiracy ruse was used by the pigs to intimidate the suspected bombers and their friends into finking on each other. The pig plan worked: David Valler has become a fanatic lunatic and has turned State's witness while in jail. He now writes anti-youth culture articles concerning drugs



PUN PLAMONDON

and 'hippie life' for insane lies to save his own skin in some kind of weird deal with the pigs.

Jack Forrest was arrested by the FBI at gunpoint in his bed (he is bedridden with a broken leg), dragged down to the Detroit pig headquarters, and released on a $2500.00 bond. John Sinclair will be brought to Detroit for a public arraignment this week, and will once again have the opportunity to be close to the high energy free spirits of hundreds of his friends and family while the courts once again expose their fascist disregard for justice and their own "law." Brother Pun has split and gone underground and will continue to intensify the struggle on yet another level. It has become clear that the FBI are a bunch of boobs in that Pun learned of his indictment over the radio a day before J. Edgar Hoover's sissies even came looking for him--they let him escape! It seems that the secret police and the shadow government (CIA, FBI, Defense Department Intelligence, etc.) are so overwhelmed with information concerning opposition to Nixon's regime, general subversion, and an ever expanding CONSPIRACY to be free that they can't stay on top of it: there is just too much s--t going down on all levels for the power structure to deal with it, even according to their own laws. So we have 1984 right now... the brain police will get the spokesmen on bogus conspiracy charges (thought crimes), will incarcerate millions of street people and free spirits with the marijuana ruse, and will murder and jail poor Black people in their racist courts. Just as Nixon and the monied interests he represents are trying to commit genocide in Vietnam and continue to play with the fate of the planet in their perverse arms race, they will pursue a policy of legal overkill in the courts against young people.

The pigs align themselves with traitors and liars and maniacs like David Valler, and then come up with some official indictment which ends with the statement: "This is a true bill." They don't fool anyone with their legalized robbery and gangsterism. It is clear to all young people who KNOW, that John Sinclair, Pun Plamondon, and Jack Forrest are victims of a dying order... an order that stands exposed when someone speaks the truth and stands proudly as a living example of a new way of life. We talk about freedom, and they talk about chaos and violence...they are sick because they are afraid of freedom. So they react crazily: John was set up by the perverted narcotics agents; sentenced to 10 years because of his beliefs and his attempts to live free of self-hate and racism and exploitation; denied appeal bond slandered by the prison officials while in quarantine; transferred to the Siberia of the Michigan prisons (charging him with trying to "organize a resistance movement inside Jackson Prison", probably making him ineligible for parole), and now indicted on some phony conspiracy charge (making it highly unlikely for the Federal courts to set an appeal bond on his marijuana case). Pun had four other phony cases pending and now has been forced to go underground. Overkill...they will do whatever is necessary to try and keep John Sinclair, Pun, and all other free spirits in prison and off the streets of America. There are no legal means left to exhaust. All Power to the People! John Sinclair must be set free...Pun Plamondon is free, we want him home with his tribe...Seize the time brothers and sisters!

ALL POWER TO THE PEOPLE!

Skip Taube
Minister of Education
White Panther Party



JOHN SINCLAIR, WHITE PANTHER PARTY

Ahmed Evans' Story

On May 12, 1969 a black man from Cleveland, Ohio was sentenced to die in the electric chair for a crime THE JUDGE ADMITTED THERE WAS NO EVIDENCE HE HAD COMMITTED. There is a temporary stay of execution in effect which may be revoked at any time, and the execution could take place upon a moment's notice. Why has Ahmed Evans been condemned?

On July 23, 1968 the Cleveland pigs descended upon Glenville, the Black ghetto. They invaded the Lakeview Tavern, sexually molesting two of the women patrons, then drove them all into the basement where the brothers and sisters were trapped while the police teargassed them. When they were finally permitted out of the basement at least one of the patrons was shot by the police. This sparked a general shoot-out between the pigs and Black nationalist brothers. At the end of an hour there were seven known dead (three pigs and four Black men) and about 20 wounded. There are rumors in the Black community, however, that TWELVE pigs died in the battle but the power structure isn't admitting this. In a typical pig reversal of the true facts, the incident was depicted as an ambush of the pigs by the brothers, very reminiscent of the pig version of the shootout in Oakland in which Bobby Hutton was killed.

After an initial flurry of excitement on the part of the media, all was quiet until the death sentence was pronounced on Ahmed Evans. Four other defendants have been or are being tried, the second having been committed to a mental institution, the third, Lathan Non-du Donald, receiving a 100-YEAR SENTENCE. Remember that the judge who sentenced Ahmed stated that there was no evidence that Ahmed had even fired a gun. But Ahmed and his friends were men who engaged in educating their people to respect themselves as Black men and defend themselves against attack. On the day of the gun battle, Ahmed's house had been staked out and he was grabbed by the pigs the minute the shooting had stopped. It seems obvious he had been set up.



AHMED EVANS

The case has been buried by the press, and were it not for the efforts of two Cleveland groups, the July 23 Defense Committee and the United Front for Political Defense, it's likely that Ahmed would have been forgotten. The Committee to Save Ahmed Evans was formed in New York City a few weeks ago to attempt to bring the case to the attention of radicals as well as the general public. More and more individuals and groups, both radical and liberal, are joining the fight but there is still much to be done. The work of the Committee has included leafletting, petitions, a demonstration, and a public meeting at which Mae Mallory and Ted Dostal of Cleveland spoke on Ahmed, as well as Black Panther Deputy Minister of Information for New York State, Zayd Shakur on the Panther 21. The Committee urges interested people to work through their own organizations or create new ones to publicize the case and obtain Ahmed's freedom, or if you live in New York or Cleveland, to join the already existing organizations.

If Ahmed's death sentence is commuted, it will then be necessary to fight for his immediate release and that of the other defendants. A suit to indict the pigs for their actions on the night of July 23, 1969 in Glenville is under consideration by the Cleveland groups.

TO ALL PHOTOGRAPHERS AND OTHERS

THE BLACK PANTHER PARTY IS NOW WORKING TO PRODUCE A PHOTOGRAPHIC HISTORY OF THE PARTY. WE ARE COLLECTING ALL PHOTOGRAPHS DEALING WITH THE PARTY'S PICTORIAL HISTORY. THESE PHOTOS WILL BE USED IN THE VERY NEAR FUTURE TO COMBAT THE LIES AND REPRESSION OF THE FASCIST MASS MEDIA MACHINERY.

WE WANT ALL PHOTOS CONCERNING THE PARTY'S ACTIVITIES; PROGRAM IN ACTION, MEETINGS, CONFERENCES, RALLIES, DEMONSTRATIONS, PIG CONFRONTATIONS, ETC. PHOTO'S FROM THE PARTY'S VERY BEGINNING IN OAKLAND IN 1966 TO TODAY'S BLACK PANTHER PARTY, AS A 32 BRANCH NATIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR LIBERATION THAT DEALS WITH LIBERATION AS A WORLD-WIDE INTERNATIONAL STRUGGLE OF ALL OPPRESSED PEOPLES.

PLEASE SEND YOUR PHOTOS TO THE BLACK PANTHER PARTY MINISTRY OF INFORMATION, 3106 SHATTUCK AVE., BERKELEY, CALIFORNIA. CALL YOUR LOCAL BRANCH OR THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION, (415)848-6705 FOR MORE INFORMATION.

PHOTOGRAPHERS, PROFESSIONAL , AMATUER AND ANYBODY WITH A CAMERA WHO HAS TAKEN PHOTOS OF THE PARTY ARE REQUESTED TO SEND IN ALL PRINTS OF THE PANTHER PARTY THEY CAN GET THEIR HANDS ON.

THIS PROJECT IS FOR AND OF THE PEOPLE TO FIGHT THE LIES AND REPRESSION OF THE FASCIST NEWS MEDIA. SO CONTACT YOUR COMRADES, UNDERGRAOUND NEWSPAPERS AND OTHER ORGANIZATIONS WHO HAVE PHOTO SOURCES.

THIS PROJECT WILL BE THE EYES OF THE PEOPLE AND WILL TELL THE TRUTH ABOUT THE PEOPLE AND THE PARTY.

IN ADDITION PLEASE SUBMIT ALL OTHER PHOTOS ILLUSTRATING THE "PROBLEMS AND THE SOLUTIONS" OF THE PEOPLES STRUGGLE.

ALL POWER TO THE PEOPLE
SEIZE THE TIME



Cover and Center Pages by William Klein

RUDE AWAKENING

Upon being released from the County Jail in December of 1968, I was placed in contact with part of the military arm of the Party of which Julio Butler was supposed to be a part.

After the assassinations of Bunchy and John, on January 17th, I moved into Julio's residence. This when we had closer contact with his squad (some of my crime partners from the days of old), all of which were working on big time jobs (city and county jobs) that they were half-way satisfied with. (One had just bought his wife a sports car, an M.G., and was planning on buying a house. Another one recently bought a brand new car, after he moved into a different pad.)



JULIO BUTLER

Because of Julio's knowledge of the pigs' tactics (he's an ex-deputy sheriff of L.A.), I was inclined to believe that his training was correct. After trying to put some of his theory of revolutionary principles into practice, I had quite a difficult time relating the theories that he professed to be so down with to the actual situations here in Babylon's Black colonies. Upon coming into conflict with his method of thinking (he still has the mentality of a pig), I started checking out his background, family, friends, etc. He owns a beauty salon (Coiffures Les Dames at 4520 W. Adams Blvd.), he has a line of beauty products for which he has the formula copyrights; he publishes a small community newspaper--something on the order of SOUL, or SCOOP magazines; he supposedly refused a job in Washington D.C. for $1,200.00 a month, presumably because he was a dedicated freedom fighter and specifically to be on security for Eldridge Cleaver at Trade Tech. College in November, 1968.

The investigation concluded the fact that he is a highly paid pig that J. Edgar Hoover has trained for the purpose of infiltrating organizations that are or seem to be helping the people to recognize their enemy. These bootlicking, "comedrunk" homosexuals run around propagating that mass media madness about the Black Panther Party trying to dissuade young Blacks from functionally relating to the people to accept the vanguard role in this revolution. These bootlickers actively organize the people for armed struggle against this fascist, decadent and piggish power structure, distorting the Party's principles, rules, and policies that are meant to educate the people to the oppression here and around the world. They mislead the people in the community by trying to make them think that the Black Panther Party is a gang of little punka--ed sissies as his own little group that he's managed fairly well to keep relating to his aspiring petty Yankee doctrine of the Black petty bourgeoisie. (All of them are potential pigs since Julio has trained them to the present policy of reactionary cultural nationalism, all of whom are being supported by the USA, all of which are products of the bourgeoisie.

Julio has been through various Black oriented organizations, such as CORE, NAACP, SNCC, etc., befor coming into the Black Panther Party. These organizations have either been folded up or they have lost contact with the people when the Party presented the Ten Point Platform and Program for the people. Julio would always manage to get out of them BEFORE they could close shop.

But we, the Black Panther Party, in the final analysis, will never fold up or lose contact with the people, simply because we are the people's army, and the people know that we're of the people, by the people, and for the people.

ALL POWER TO THE PEOPLE
Long John
Southern California Chapter,
Black Panther Party

FREE CLOTHES IN PHILLY

The Philadelphia Branch of the Black Panther Party has moved to answer another one of the foremost needs of the people--clothing. In our work on the Free Breakfast Program, the need of the children for warm and adequate clothing became very evident. Understanding that the corrupt pig power structure does not pay welfare recipients in this city (or anywhere else for that matter) enough to begin to clothe our children warmly, Sister Barbara Cox initiated the Free Clothing Program.

The whole cadre has participated in the necessary tasks to get this program off the ground. These tasks included going to the merchants of Fascist Philly for donations, preparing circulars, and distributing them among the businessmen and the people. Clothing is being gathered and prepared for distribution to the people.

The response from the large department stores, such as John Wanamakers, Gimbles, etc. has been nil. The usual reply from these greedy avaricious hogs has been, "We already donate to charities and you (the Black Panther Party) are not a recognized charity." To this, we say, f--k you, hog!

New York and Jersey City already have successful Clothing Programs going on and we are sure that our programs will be as successful.

Instead of sitting around and talking about the fact that kids need clothes, we're going out and clothing them. While the pigs are shooting billions of our dollars up to the moon and meanwhile ignoring the cries of the hungry and naked, we are dealing with the real situation. We hope to see this program implemented around the country, everywhere that there is a need for it.

And to the pigs who are sh---ing on humanity, we say that the people will deal with them. And the people are tired of waiting on the pigs to get up off their funky a--es to give them what is theirs. The people will TAKE what is theirs.

ALL POWER TO THE PEOPLE!

Philadelphia Branch
Black Panther Party
1928 W. Columbia Ave.
Phila., Pa. 19121
Lynn Smith



ELAINE BROWN

REVOLUTIONARY VIEW ON MUSIC

NOTE: Elaine Brown, Deputy Minister of Information for the Southern California Chapter of the Black Panther Party is first and foremost a revolutionary. She is also a talented singer, plugged in on what's happening to her people. The term "Revolutionary Music" has been loosely thrown around by a lot of imposters and opportunists with either no connections to the people's revolution or no talent, or a combination of both. This statement of political and cultural position by Elaine Brown will give you some hint of what is to come in a soon to be released album. They are the first songs of the American Revolution.

"SEIZE THE TIME"

NOTES FOR THE ALBUM:

In all societies, the way of life of the people, their culture, mores, customs, etc. evolved from the economic basis of that society. The United States is a capitalistic society, the system of capitalism being one of exploitation of man by man, with products such as racism, religious chauvinism, sexual chauvinism, and unnatural divisions among the people. In other words, it's a dog eat dog society. But it's not a dog eat dog world.

Men are not innately greedy nor are they innately uncooperative with each other. Therefore, it is our goal, it is the goal of the Black Panther Party, and must be the goal of all men to create conditions in which men can start being human, can begin to cooperate with each other, can live with each other in fact in peace. Men cannot do this without an arena in which to do so. In other words in an exploitative system men are forced to exploit. In an unkind system, men are forced to be unkind. In a world of inhumanity, men will be inhuman. In a society that is war mongering, men will war. These are the aspects or the way of life of a people who are part of a capitalist system.

And songs are part of the culture of society. Art, in general, is that. Songs, like all art forms, are an expression of the feelings and thoughts, of the desires and hopes, and so forth of a people. They are no more that. A song cannot change a situation, because a song does not live and breathe. People do.

And so the songs in this album are a statement--by, of, and for the people. All the people. A statement to say that we, the masses of people have had a game run on us; a game that made us think that it was necessary for our survival to grab from each other, to take what we wanted as individuals from other individuals or groups, or to exploit each other. And so the statement is that some of us have understood that it is absolutely ESSENTIAL for our survival to do just the opposite. And that in fact we have always had the power to do it. The power to determine our destinies as human beings and not allow them to be determined by the few men who now determine them. That we were always human and always had this power. But that we never recognized that, for we were deluged, bombarded, mesmerized by the trinkets of the ruling class. And this means all of us: Black, Mexican, White, Indian, Oriental, Gypsy, all who are members of the working class, of the non-working class, (that is, those who don't have jobs), all who are oppressed.

This means all of us have this power. But the power only belongs to all of us, not just some or one, but all. And that was the trick. That was the thing we never understood. And that is what statement these songs make.

ELAINE BROWN
ALL POWER TO THE PEOPLE

INTERVIEW WITH SCANDINAVIAN REP. OF BLACK PANTHER PARTY: CONNIE MATTHEWS

by Klaus Pedersen of "Land and Folk" (Communist Organ)

Panthers' most important weapons: Marxism, Food and Medicine

KLAUS: Connie, just some background on how the BPP started and what were the reasons for taking the directions they have now taken?

CONNIE: Very briefly: In 1966 Huey P. Newton our leader and Bobby Seale our Chairman, got together and decided that the existing organizations at that time had no ideology and were not taking into account the needs of the masses of the people. Having read Fanon and the works of Mao they were able to see the problem as a class struggle. The first concrete thing they did was to draw up a 10 point platform and program based on the needs of the people in the Black communities. Point No. 7 states "We want an immediate end to police brutality and murder of Black people". And they decided that every Black person in the community could relate to this as at one time or another they had come into contact with the brutality of the pigs. And so point No. 7 was implemented first. Huey and Bobby then started to patrol the communities according their constitutional rights and observe the officers of the law carrying out their duty. This way they were able to educate the people as to what their rights were when the pigs manhandled them. This in essence was the beginning of the BPP. At this time it was only on a regional basis. But soon after the episode at Sacramento when 30 Panthers went there to observe the law makers introducing new laws, they received national coverage, and the BPP became known across the nation. They then commenced to realize other points of the 10 point platform and program by introducing social projects into the communities. At present, they are feeding thousands of hungry children each morning before going to school. They have been able to set up Free Health Clinics and Revolutionary Schools. Approximately 40 chapters are scattered across the nation. A great deal of community work is being done when Panthers go into the communities and educate the people as to the true nature of this racist decadent society and who their true oppressor is. The people are taught that Black capitalism is only a guise and the only solution is socialism. At this point I would like to clarify one point, and that is that we do not disregard racism. We understand that capitalism breeds racism: one is the cause and the other is effect- and that in order to rid the world of oppression and racial tensions capitalism and imperialism must be destroyed.

KLAUS: There has been a great deal of confusion not only in Denmark but other places about what really is the goal of the BPP. But maybe we should just concentrate on the European public. Would you explain the effects of the confusion and why it has taken place and clarify some of the points that you think the Scandinavians have been misinformed on?

CONNIE: First of all I explained that the goals of the BPP are set out clearly in our 10 point platform and program and this has now been translated into Swedish, Danish, French and German. One of the problems I believe, is that the BPP concentrates on doing its community work in the Black communities. And that Europeans find this hard to understand as they do not grasp fully the extent of racial lines in the United States. The BPP tells other ethnic groups who have the same ideology that they should work in their communities and educate their people to a level of understanding, whereby the true oppressor can be recognized and the ultimate aim is then a United Front. This point was not clarified to Europeans and with the aid of the establishment press people were willing to label the BPP as being a racist organization. It is necessary, and I am only too willing time and time again to repeat to European audiences, that the BPP is speaking about a world proletarian revolution and recognize themselves as part of this. It is a question of the oppressor against the oppressed regardless of race, color or creed. One of our major drawbacks has been, of course, the frequent visits of our former Prime Minister Stokely Carmichael to Europe and he has been instrumental in misleading people as to our class stand.

KLAUS: One of the problems you have had to face is that the spokesmen you have sent abroad have been very few and they have not really assisted in clarifying your stand.

CONNIE: Yes. And I return to the problem of Stokely and the problem of not having been able to send spokesmen abroad. You have to understand that ever since we have started our leaders have either been in or out of jail on trumped-up charges or are continually being harrassed by the authorities. We realized the importance of international contacts very clearly and that was one of the main reasons why Stokely was appointed to do what I am now doing- and that was to enlighten other people as to the true nature of our struggle. Stokely has, of course, turned out to be a running dog and a lackey. He not only betrayed the trust of the BPP but of the Black community as a whole, which we represent. The people had a lot of confidence in him and because of the madness he has perpetrated Black capitalism was able to get a hold in the Black communities. He was not the only Black leader responsible for this but we are now talking about him.

KLAUS: Where is Stokely now?

CONNIE: I believe he is in Guinea, in hiding.

KLAUS: Of course the struggle that Malcolm X initiated was a very harsh one and the price was life. Do you think that this fight between the Blacks is over and that the BPP with its ideology is accepted in the Black communities?



CONNIE MATTHEWS

CONNIE: Well practice is the criteria of the truth. The BPP is achieving what it started out to do and the price has been very high. Many Panthers have been murdered and many are in jail. The most recent, which I dealt with at length at the demonstration 2 days ago is the kidnapping and railroading of our Chairman Bobby Seale on trumped-up charges. We are, however, educating the people day by day and we understood why Malcolm lost his life and why many of us will lose ours. After his return from Africa he was able to take his thinking from a lower to a higher level and recognize that this was a class struggle. Where Malcolm left off we took over. The whole point is that for every life taken we have to make sure that it is not in vain, but that it has served to raise the level of the people's consciousness. We understand that victory is not just waiting for us but that we will have to fight from one generation to the next. You can jail and exile a revolutionary but you cannot jail or exile the spirit of the people which is manifested in revolution. And once the people are aware, the more the establishment will attack and the more they attack the more the people will rally to support the Party. We must have faith in the people. They are the ones we are fighting for. The final decision will ultimately be in the hands of the people.

KLAUS: You spoke about Marxist-Leninism and Mao. Can one regard the BPP as a so-called Maoist Party?

CONNIE: We take the basic ideology of Marxist-Leninism. Mao writes in a more contemporary style which is easier to grasp. However, we are unable to be dogmatic in putting things into practice because as true Marxist-Leninist, we understand that the conditions we are subjected to govern our tactics.

KLAUS: The impression given in the establishment press has been one that the Panthers are a militant, armed people causing disorder and it seems that the establisment has been successful in leading people to believe this.

CONNIE: I think you have to understand that "violence" is a way of living with Americans. America was built on violence- the genocide of 50 million Indians. They have romanticized this and called it "Cowboys and Indians". It is obvious that the only way to combat this violence that the establishment uses against the oppressed people is to use violence. The only way to get rid of the gun is to take up the gun. For most Europeans it is difficult to understand as the pigs do not resort to guns. For a long time Black Americans remained non-violent but Martin Luther King was murdered. We want peace and if there was any way of reaching a solution to the problem peacefully we would do it that way, but this is impossible. Look at Vietnam. It will be quite easy to send 30 million Blacks to the gas chamber or whatever other advanced form of technology they have of murdering people and you had better believe it can and will happen unless we resist now.

KLAUS: As soon as Malcolm X understood the meaning of the word internationalism and classes, he became a threat and was dangerous. What about you? You personally, do you think you are leading a very dangerous life?

CONNIE: The American establishment is very clever. They know that as long as they have a bunch of niggers running around talking about they want to kill all Whites and that they hate all Whites, they are no threat. When you get someone like Malcolm or a group like the BPP who say – Let's get together and get to the root of the problem. There are White people and other people of color who are just as oppressed as we are. There is no point in just hating people because of the color of their skins – then, of course, we are dangerous. Black people were not brought from Africa to work on cotton plantations and sugar plantations because they were Black, but because they were free labor and were used to advance capitalism. The establishment then realizes that those dumb niggers are not so dumb anymore. In finding where the problem is you are on the road to finding the solution. Black capitalism and federal grants, which we reject, have been created as a smoke screen. For me personally I understand what I have to do and like anyone else I do not want to die but if that is the only way this oppression can stop by my helping to enlighten the people outside of the United States as to the true nature of that decadent society then I say Right On! Many lives that were more valuable than mine have been lost.

KLAUS: In conclusion tell us something about your experience in Denmark and what we can do to continue what you have started here.

CONNIE: Most Danes are inclined to view the struggle of oppressed peoples in a romantic way. They feel detached. That it is happening somewhere else. I have repeatedly told the Danes that they are covertly endorsing America's actions by belonging to Nato, the world pig force, by allowing American investments to take a stronghold in Denmark and they are on the verge of being a neo-colonialist state. The best care package you can send to us is to resist imperialism in your country, get out of Nato, get back your autonomy and force your government into taking a stand against US imperialism. Do not continue to tell me you only have 4 1/2 million people. We have to stop thinking in terms of countries. U.S. imperialism has now gone to the moon and where next? My parting message is that there are a few conscious Danes who realize the urgency of the situation. Continue to educate your people to the true nature of what is happening and let them understand the full meaning of All Power to the People.

DUE TO THE OPEN ATTEMPT TO SABOTAGE THE BLACK PANTHER PARTY FINANCE BY THE FASCIST RICHARD NIXON REGIME, WE HAVE FOUND IT NECESSARY TO SHORTEN THE LENGTH OF THE BLACK PANTHER NEWS SERVICE THIS WEEK. THIS IS CLEARLY AN ATTEMPT TO SUPPRESS THE INFORMATION AND THE POLITICS OF THE PARTY THAT THE PEOPLE SO DESPERATELY NEED TO CARRY ON THE STRUGGLE. WE HOPE FOR A CONSISTENT 20 PAGE PAPER IN THE FUTURE.

From a Black Seaman:

LETTER TO TRICKY-DICK

August 27, 1969

Dear Mr. President:

During the past two weeks I have considered writing you many times, but I hesitated fearing I would be accused of not contacting other subordinate officials first. Because I have written letters to my Congressman, Senators, and many other influential people and have received no significant response, I now write to you as a last resort.

I am a reservist in the US Navy serving in the 13th month of a 24 month enlistment. I was stationed at Air Anti-Submarine Squadron 41 on North Island, San Diego until August 20, 1969, when I was transferred to Midway Island. Presently on leave, I am to report to my new duty station by September 7, 1969.

It is my contention that my transfer is unjust, because it is punitive and based on discrimination, both ideological and racial. Because I have no tangible evidence, this charge is extremely difficult to prove. Also, being an enlisted man with a rate of Seaman, it is almost impossible to fight this type of injustice especially when it is perpetrated by high ranking officers as it is in my case. Because of the difficulty of my position, I can only say that if the information in this letter proves to be incorrect, after a thorough study is conducted, I will gladly go to Midway Island.

Being as brief as possible, the facts involving my transfer are as follows:

1) My tour of completion date or the date when I am supposed to leave North Island, entered in my service record is July 22, 1970.

2) Of the 5 reservists that entered the squadron in August of 1968, I am the only one to be transferred, and I am the only black reservist.

3) Indirectly, I have been the object of several racial slurs. Two yeomen in our squadron referred to two white friends of mine as "nigger-lovers" because of their association with me and other black people.

4) Because I was outspoken in my criticism of the intolerable living conditions that existed in our barracks, I was regarded with suspicion. Also, after many discussions with officers about the racial problem in America, I was regarded as a radical and I lost favor in the squadron. This is understandable since the officers' viewpoints were that the racial problem would have solved itself if it had been left alone and that black people are inherently lazy.

5) In a meeting with the executive officer of VS-41 and several enlisted men, I very candidly described incidents in the squadron dealing with racial prejudice and threats directed at enlisted men to keep them from reading "underground" literature which was apearing in the barracks.

6) A friend of mine named Thomas I. Csekey of the same squadron was recently court-martialed for passing out literature on base against the orders of his commanding officer. Despite a warning from my division officer to stay out of the trial, thinking it my duty, I testified at the court-martial as a witness for the defense. Just 3 days after the trial, I received notification that I would be transferred.

In my 13 months in the Navy, I have never seen nor heard about a transfer filled with as many irregularities as mine. They are as follows:

1) Usually in the Navy a man with less than a year to serve is not transferred. I have 11 months left before I am discharged.

2) Originally, I was notified of my transfer on a Thursday and I was supposed to leave the next day, but my division officer intervened and obtained a delay.

3) Usually when a man transfers from one duty station to another he receives time to visit home and take care of his personal business, but my orders included no leave time. In fact, when I requested leave from the personnel officer of the squardon, he refused to grant it to me with the excuse that I had not called him soon enough. Only after submitting a letter to the Chief of Naval Personnel in Washington through the chain of command was leave extended to me.

4) The most outrageous and insulting aspect of my transfer was when the squadron provided me with a combination escort and chauffeur to accompany me and drive me to the different check out points on base. I was humiliated when after checking out of the barracks I attempted to make a telephone call, but was told by my escort that he was given instructions to not allow me "to do anything like that." Only after explaining to him that even a criminal upon arrest can make a telephone call before being put in jail did he allow me to use a telephone and then for only about one minute before demanding that I end my conversation.

Even after I brought the above facts and more to the attention of the officials in the Navy, they still say my transfer is a normal transfer. Mr. President, I appeal to your sense of justice as a lawyer and to your conscience as a human being and the leader of this great nation to not only prevent my transfer but the transfer and punishment of others like me who are "guilty" of one crime: believing that the Constitution is the supreme law of the land, believing that we have rights of expression as guaranteed in the Bill of Rights, and believing that as citizens we should be protected when our rights are violated.

Respectfully,

Robert G. Mahoney

FORT DIX SUICIDE

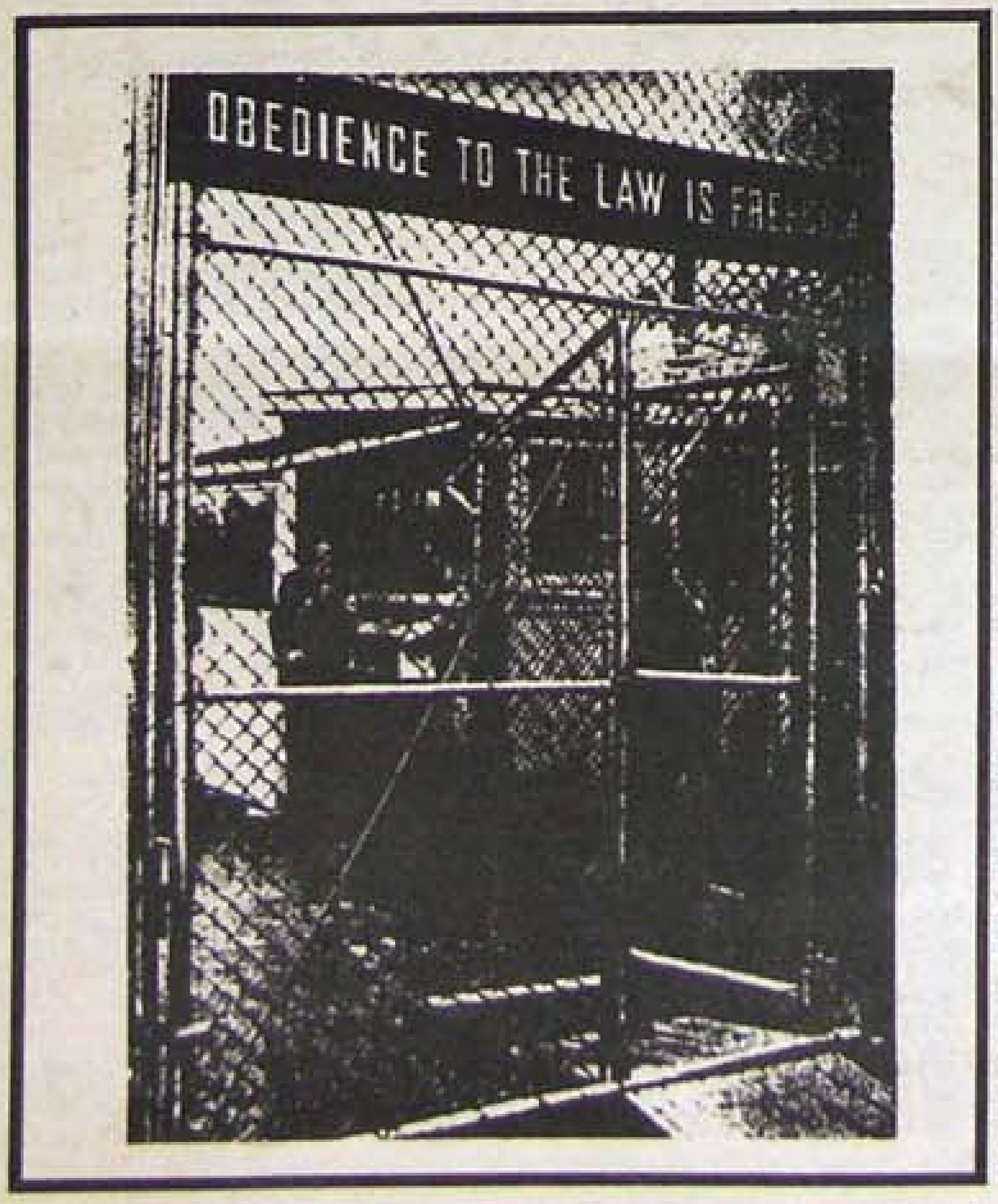
WASHINGTON — Pvt. David L. Swanson 21, was found dead in bed at home in New Britain, Conn. last Sunday after taking an overdose of sleeping pills.

His father Arvid, a tool and die maker, said in a telephone interview Wednesday, "Somebody's got to answer for this... we begged everybody for help, the Red Cross, his company commander, Congressman Meskill... all we were looking for was someone to take care of this boy."

The day after Pvt. Swanson's first suicide attempt he wrote from Fort Dix, "The day after I cut my wrists and had stitches put in, they made me do push-ups and other exercises... the other day I couldn't move my fingers at all. They told me to stop bluffing or they'll put an electrode on my arm and give me a good shock to wake it and me up... I know I'll try to kill myself again if this keeps up."

A few days later, Swanson slashed his wrists again and wrote that he had been given an Article 15, punishment by the company commander, for his attempt.

At Fort Dix, Major George E. Chase, said the command was satisfied that Swanson's case had been correctly handled and that no inquiry will be made.



Anti-War GI Recieves Honorable Discharge

On September 27, after months of harassment and discrimination because of his anti-war and socialist ideas, Pvt. Steve Dash of Ft. Jackson, S.C., was given less than a day's notice that he was discharged from the Army; he was told that his discharge, an honorable one, would be mailed to him. According to attorneys, this case marks the first time that a self-proclaimed member of an organization classified as "subversive" by the U S Attorney General has been granted an honorable discharge from the Army after a security board hearing. As such it is of crucial importance as a legal precedent in the fight for G I rights.

The discharge notice came only a week after Dash was restricted to post on a weekend he was scheduled to speak at an anti-war meeting at the University of South Carolina. He was told he was being restricted "for his own good."

Dash was active in G.I.'s United Against the War in Vietnam last spring at Ft. Jackson. On May 27, he was given a security board hearing to determine his "fitness" to remain in the Army. The Army charged that because of his membership in the Young Socialist Alliance and Socialist Workers Party, his retention in the Army was not in the "national interest."

Attorney Dorian Bowman, associate of Leonard Boudin of New York, who defended Dash at his hearing, said of the honorable discharge, "Since he had a perfect military record, the Army apparently felt that they did not have a chance to have a less than honorable discharge stand up in court." The Army regulations clearly state that the type of discharge issued is to be determined soley by a serviceman's military record. Bowman joined the G I Civil Liberties Defense Committee in considering the honorable discharge a significant precedent.

Three other members of G.I. s United Against the War in Vietnam received undesirable discharges following "unfitness board" hearings last spring. The G I Civil Liberties Defense Committee, in association with attorneys Leonard Boudin of New York and David Rein of Washington, are appealing those discharges.

RED BERETS

Top secret operations are being launched in Vietnam to kill or capture American deserters fighting for the NLF, according to a London Express story reprinted June 24 in the New York Post. The operations have been ordered as the problem of troops going AWOL in the war zones becomes increasingly serious.

Many of them are black soldiers, who let it be known they are deserting as a gesture in support of the black liberation movement in the U.S. At American headquarters in Saigon a spokesman confirmed that latest figures showed desertions in Vietnam are running at the rate of nearly ten a day. He was unable to reveal the total number of deserters, nor is it known how many join the enemy. In the Danan area, a group of black deserters formed a black power platoon and held regular drill parades near a village.

Those who do defect are extreamly helpful to the NLF. They take with them detailed knowledge of how to work American equipment and how American units operate.

In the Mekong Delta there have been reports of deserters using stolen radios to cut in on Army wavelengths to mis-direct artillery and helicopter fire. These men are considered such a menace that Green Beret troops are used to try to track them down. The Green Berets are ordered to kill them if it is impossible to capture them alive. So far there have been no reports of a court martial of any American who joined the NLF.

NEW YORK (LNS)

October 1966

Black Panther Party Platform and Program

What We Want What We Believe



FREE HUEY

Minister of Defense, Black Panther Party

1. We want freedom. We want power to determine the destiny of our Black Community.

We believe that black people will not be free until we are able to determine our destiny.

2. We want full employment for our people.

We believe that the federal government is responsible and obligated to give every man employment or a guaranteed income. We believe that if the white American businessmen will not give full employment, then the means of production should be taken from the businessmen and placed in the community so that the people of the community can organize and employ all of its people and give a high standard of living.

3. We want an end to the robbery by the CAPITALIST of our Black Community.

We believe that this racist government has robbed us and now we are demanding the overdue debt of forty acres and two mules. Forty acres and two mules was promised 100 years ago as restitution for slave labor and mass murder of black people. We will accept the payment in currency which will be distributed to our many communities. The Germans are now aiding the Jews in Israel for the genocide of the Jewish people. The Germans murdered six million Jews. The American racist has taken part in the slaughter of over fifty million black people; therefore, we feel that this is a modest demand that we make.

4. We want decent housing, fit for shelter of human beings.

We believe that if the white landlords will not give decent housing to our black community, then the housing and the land should be made into cooperatives so that our community, with government aid, can build and make decent housing for its people.

5. We want education for our people that exposes the true nature of this decadent American society. We want education that teaches us our true history and our role in the present-day society.

We believe in an educational system that will give to our people a knowledge of self. If a man does not have knowledge of himself and his position in society and the world, then he has little chance to relate to anything else.

6. We want all black men to be exempt from military service.

We believe that Black people should not be forced to fight in the military service to defend a racist government that does not protect us. We will not fight and kill other people of color in the world who, like black people, are being victimized by the white racist government of America. We will protect ourselves from the force and violence of the racist police and the racist military, by whatever means necessary.

7. We want an immediate end to POLICE BRUTALITY and MURDER of black people.

We believe we can end police brutality in our black community by organizing black self-defense groups that are dedicated to defending our black community from racist police oppression and brutality. The Second Amendment to the Constitution of the United States gives a right to bear arms. We therefore believe that all black people should arm themselves for self-defense.

8. We want freedom for all black men held in federal, state, county and city prisons and jails.

We believe that all black people should be released from the many jails and prisons because they have not received a fair and impartial trial.

9. We want all black people when brought to trial to be tried in court by a jury of their peer group or people from their black communities, as defined by the Constitution of the United States.

We believe that the courts should follow the United States Constitution so that black people will receive fair trials. The 14th Amendment of the U.S. Constitution gives a man a right to be tried by his peer group. A peer is a person from a similar economic, social, religious, geographical, environmental, historical and racial background. To do this the court will be forced to select a jury from the black community from which the black defendant came. We have been, and are being tried by all-white juries that have no understanding of the "average reasoning man" of the black community.

10. We want land, bread, housing, education, clothing, justice and peace. And as our major political objective, a United Nations-supervised plebiscite to be held throughout the black colony in which only black colonial subjects will be allowed to participate, for the purpose of determining the will of black people as to their national destiny.

When, in the course of human events, it becomes necessary for one people to dissolve the political bands which have connected them with another, and to assume, among the powers of the earth, the separate and equal station to which the laws of nature and nature's God entitle them, a decent respect to the opinions of mankind requires that they should declare the causes which impel them to the separation.

We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal; that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable rights; that among these are life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. **That, to secure these rights, governments are instituted among men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed; that, whenever any form of government becomes destructive of these ends, it is the right of the people to alter or to abolish it, and to institute a new government, laying its foundation on such principles, and organizing its powers in such form, as to them shall seem most likely to effect their safety and happiness.** Prudence, indeed, will dictate that governments long established should not be changed for light and transient causes; and, accordingly, all experience hath shown, that mankind are more disposed to suffer, while evils are sufferable, than to right themselves by abolishing the forms to which they are accustomed. **But, when a long train of abuses and unsurpations, pursuing invariably the same object, evinces a design to reduce them under absolute despotism, it is their right, it is their duty, to throw off such government, and to provide new guards for their future security.**


ALL POWER TO THE PEOPLE
Community Control Of Police
Out Of Order
oink oink oink oink
STATE